

August 20, 2004

Jay Baker
38820 Highway 1,
Gualala, CA 95445
Case No. 1TMC070

Notice of Proposed No Further Action related to petroleum hydrocarbon discharge.
Comment Period ends **September 20, 2004.**

Problem Description: On May 21, 1987, one gasoline underground storage tank and one diesel underground storage tank were emptied of their contents and abandoned in place at the Jay Baker (Baker Town) site in Gualala. A cement slurry mixture was used to fill the abandoned tanks. Presently, the tanks are located underneath the concrete slab of a large on-site storage garage structure.

Four months after abandonment activities took place, soil samples were collected for laboratory analysis. Soil samples were collected from an excavation pit located approximately 43 inches east of the abandoned tanks. Laboratory analytical results revealed 2.7 mg/kg of TPH-gasoline and 1.7 mg/kg TPH-diesel. Significant gasoline odors were observed at the time of the soil sampling activities.

Actions Completed: In April of 2000 three monitoring wells were installed within 12 feet north (MW-2), northeast (MW-1) and west (MW-3) of the abandoned tanks. Monitoring wells MW-2 and MW-3 were drilled into the concrete slab floor of the storage garage structure. A fourth monitoring well was installed approximately 60 feet southwest (MW-4) of the tanks in the suspected down-gradient direction. One to two soil samples and one groundwater sample were collected from each boring for laboratory analysis. Laboratory analytical results revealed non-detect concentrations of the constituents of concern in the soil samples, with the exception of the sample collected from MW-3 at a depth of 4 feet below ground surface (bgs), which reported 290 mg/kg of TPH-gasoline and 930 mg/kg of TPH-diesel. The groundwater samples contained maximum concentrations of 5,100 ug/l of TPH-gasoline, 2,300 ug/l of TPH-diesel, and 50 ug/l benzene in MW-3.

In October of 2002 two additional monitoring wells (MW-5 and MW-6) were installed to the southwest and northwest respectively, of the abandoned tanks. These monitoring wells were installed to assess soil and groundwater conditions in the cross and down-gradient directions of the abandoned tanks and to confirm the stability of the localized groundwater plume. Soil samples were collected from the two borings for laboratory analysis. Laboratory analytical results reported 41 mg/kg of TPH-diesel in the soil sample collected from MW-5 at 3 feet bgs. The remaining soil samples revealed non-detect concentrations of the constituents of concern. Monitoring wells MW-5 and MW-6 were dry at the time of installation and groundwater samples were not collected for analysis.

To date, the original four monitoring wells have been sampled nine times and the more recently installed wells have been sampled four times. During this time period constituents of concern have been reported only in monitoring wells MW-2 and MW-3, with the exception of a one-time detection of 0.57 ug/l of benzene in the water sample collected from MW-5.

Concentrations of the constituents of concern have been relatively stable over time, suggesting minimum natural attenuation is occurring beneath the concrete pad of the storage garage structure. However, non-detect concentrations of the constituents of concern have consistently been reported in the groundwater samples collected from the down gradient monitoring wells, demonstrating relative plume stability in the area directly beneath the garage structure.

Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) Status: MTBE was not reported in either the soil or water samples.

Proposed Action: No further action related to the petroleum hydrocarbon discharge is proposed.

Unless comments are received with significant new information, Regional Water Board staff plans to concur with no further action upon conclusion of the comment period. Please contact Rachel Bosworth at (707) 576-2542 or boswr@rbl.swrcb.ca.gov with any questions or comments.